

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 6, 2012

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 24, 2012

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 82**

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**Introduced by Senator Blakeslee**

**(Principal coauthors: Senators Correa, Dutton, and Harman)**

(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Cook, Fletcher, Gorell, Grove,  
and Knight)

**(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Berryhill, De León, Emmerson,  
Evans, Fuller, Huff, La Malfa, Pavley, Runner, Strickland,  
Walters, and Wyland)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Ammiano,  
Bill Berryhill, Block, Blumenfield, Chesbro, Conway, Donnelly,  
Beth Gaines, Garrick, Hagman, Halderman, Hall, Harkey, Hill,  
Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Logue, Ma, Mansoor, Miller, Monning,  
Nestande, Nielsen, Portantino, Silva, Solorio, Valadao, Wagner,  
Wieckowski, and Williams)

April 10, 2012

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 82—Relative to California veterans  
who served in Iraq or Afghanistan.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 82, as amended, Blakeslee. California veterans of the Iraq War:  
memorial.

This measure would commemorate and honor the service and sacrifice  
of the members of the United States Armed Forces who supported the  
operations in Iraq, and their families, as the official combat mission in  
Iraq draws to a close. This measure would encourage mayors and  
communities across the State of California to honor veterans who served  
in Iraq and Afghanistan on November 11, 2012, in Veterans Day

parades, ceremonies, and other displays of our state's gratitude for their service and sacrifice. This measure would also request that the Department of General Services work with appropriate ~~third 3rd~~ parties to ~~design and create~~ *advise and oversee the creation of* a memorial for the California veterans who fought and served in Iraq and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering the ~~cost~~, *design, construction, and maintenance costs and ensuring that the memorial is in the best interest of the State Capitol Park*, erect that memorial, in accordance with California law, in the State Capitol Park. This measure would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation authorizing the creation of a larger memorial commemorating and thanking those who served in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Nearly 1,500,000 members of the United States  
2 Armed Forces served in Iraq, thousands of whom are residents of  
3 the State of California, many serving on multiple deployments;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The members of the United States Armed Forces  
6 who served in support of operations in Iraq performed brilliantly  
7 in a highly complex and challenging environment, and did  
8 everything that was asked of them, and more, to meet the  
9 requirements of the mission; and

10 WHEREAS, Thousands of members of the United States  
11 National Guard and Reserves left their civilian jobs and livelihoods  
12 to support operations in Iraq, making enormous contributions, and  
13 serving with distinction; and

14 WHEREAS, Nearly 4,500 members of the United States Armed  
15 Forces, 668 of whom were residents of the State of California,  
16 made the ultimate sacrifice in giving their lives in support of  
17 operations in Iraq; and

18 WHEREAS, More than 30,000 members of the United States  
19 Armed Forces, 5,713 of whom are residents of the State of  
20 California, were wounded serving in support of operations in Iraq;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Families of the members of the United States  
23 Armed Forces serving in Iraq endured repeated deployments and  
24 spent many holidays, birthdays, and anniversaries apart; and

25 WHEREAS, After nearly nine years of combat, we welcome  
26 home our veterans and continue to support members of the United

1 States Armed Forces deployed in Afghanistan and elsewhere in  
2 the world; and

3 WHEREAS, Iraq's destiny and future development now lie with  
4 its people; and

5 WHEREAS, The people of the United States recognize the  
6 service and sacrifices made by those members of the United States  
7 Armed Forces and veterans, as well as their families; now,  
8 therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
10 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature officially welcomes home  
11 the members of the United States Armed Forces who served our  
12 nation with honor, bravery, and distinction; pays tribute to the  
13 members of the United States Armed Forces who served in support  
14 of operations in Iraq; calls on the people of the State of California  
15 to reflect on the service of those members of the United States  
16 Armed Forces, veterans, and their families, and honor their  
17 sacrifices; and commemorates and honors the contribution, service,  
18 and sacrifice made by members of the United States Armed Forces  
19 and their families, as the official combat mission in Iraq draws to  
20 a close by erecting a memorial in the State Capitol Park; and be it  
21 further

22 *Resolved*, That mayors and communities across the State of  
23 California are encouraged to honor veterans who served in Iraq  
24 and Afghanistan on November 11, 2012, in Veterans Day parades,  
25 ceremonies, and other displays of our state's gratitude for their  
26 service and sacrifice; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Department of General Services is requested  
28 to work with appropriate third parties to ~~design and create~~ *advise*  
29 *and oversee the creation of* a memorial honoring the California  
30 veterans who fought and served in Iraq and, upon receiving  
31 donations from nonstate sources covering the ~~cost~~, *design,*  
32 *construction, and maintenance costs and ensuring that the*  
33 *memorial is in the best interest of the State Capitol Park*, erect that  
34 memorial, in accordance with California law, in the State Capitol  
35 Park; and be it further

36 *Resolved*, That the Legislature intends to enact future legislation  
37 authorizing the creation of a larger memorial commemorating and  
38 thanking those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan; and be it  
39 further

- 1     *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
- 2     this resolution to the Director of General Services and to the author
- 3     for appropriate distribution.

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